

Application No. 09/912,181
Amendment dated December 2, 2003
Reply to Office Action of June 5, 2003

Amendment to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

Claim 1 (original): A shower head assembly, comprising:

a shower head housing having a water inlet and a nozzle plate, said nozzle plate having a plurality of apertures therein;

a plurality of nozzles positioned on said shower head housing in fluid communication with said apertures to provide a plurality of water outlets;

a plurality of nozzle inserts, each of said nozzles having a nozzle insert positioned therein, each of said nozzle inserts having a flexible nozzle tip protruding from said nozzle, each of said nozzle inserts having a passageway in fluid communication with said water inlet, whereby water introduced into said water inlet is ejected from the shower head through said passageway in said nozzle insert.

Claim 2 (original): The shower head assembly of Claim 1, wherein said nozzle insert is formed from an outer sleeve surrounding an inner cannulated member having said passageway formed therein.

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Claim 3 (original): The shower head assembly of Claim 2, wherein said nozzle insert comprises a co-injected part, with said outer sleeve formed over said inner cannulated member.

Claim 4 (original): The shower head assembly of Claim 2, wherein said outer sleeve is formed of a harder material than said inner cannulated member.

Claim 5 (original): The shower head assembly of Claim 2, wherein said inner cannulated member is formed from a material having a shore hardness of about 30-50 Sh A.

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Claim 6 (original): The shower head assembly of Claim 2, wherein said outer sleeve is formed from a material having a shore hardness of about 90 Sh A.

Claim 7 (original): The shower head assembly of Claim 2, wherein said outer sleeve is formed from a polypropylene material.

Claim 8 (original): The shower head assembly of Claim 2, wherein said inner cannulated member is formed from a polypropylene material.

Claim 9 (original): The shower head assembly of Claim 7, wherein said inner cannulated member is formed from a polypropylene material.

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Claim 10 (original): The shower head assembly of Claim 1, wherein said nozzle and said shower head have a consistent finish.

Claim 11 (original): The shower head assembly of Claim 10, wherein said consistent finish comprises a brass finish.

PA Claim 12 (original): The shower head assembly of Claim 10, wherein said consistent finish comprises a chrome finish.

Claim 13 (original): The shower head assembly of Claim 1, wherein said flexible nozzle tip protrudes about 1-2 mm from said nozzle.

Claim 14 (original): A shower head nozzle, comprising a nozzle body having a nozzle insert passageway formed therein, said nozzle having a nozzle insert positioned in said nozzle insert passageway, said nozzle insert including a flexible nozzle tip protruding from said nozzle, said nozzle insert being cannulated, whereby water introduced into said nozzle traverses said nozzle insert and is ejected therefrom.

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Claim 15 (original): The nozzle of Claim 14, wherein said nozzle insert is formed from an outer sleeve surrounding an inner cannulated member having said passageway formed therein.

Claim 16 (original): The nozzle of Claim 15, wherein said nozzle insert is formed from an outer sleeve surrounding an inner cannulated member having said passageway formed therein.

AD Claim 17 (currently amended): The ~~shower head assembly~~ nozzle of Claim 15, wherein said outer sleeve is formed of a harder material than said inner cannulated member.

Claim 18 (original): The nozzle of Claim 12, wherein said inner cannulated member is formed from a material having a shore hardness of about 30-50 Sh A.

Claim 19 (original): The nozzle of Claim 12, wherein said outer sleeve is formed from a material having a shore hardness of about 90 Sh A.

Claim 20 (original): The nozzle of Claim 12, wherein said outer sleeve is formed from a polypropylene material.

Claim 21 (original): The nozzle of Claim 14, wherein said flexible nozzle tip protrudes about 1-2 mm from said nozzle.

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Claim 22 (new): The shower head assembly of Claim 1, wherein each said nozzle includes an upstream end and a downstream end, said downstream end having an aperture formed therein, said aperture having an interior dimension, and wherein a flexible nozzle tip of each said nozzle insert is positioned in said aperture and protrudes from one of said nozzles, each said nozzle tip having an exterior dimension, said exterior dimension of said nozzle tips being no larger than said interior dimension of said apertures.

A2 Claim 23 (new): The shower head assembly of Claim 2, wherein each said nozzle insert is an integral member formed from an outer sleeve surrounding an inner cannulated member.

Claim 24 (new): The nozzle of Claim 14, wherein each said nozzle includes an upstream end and a downstream end, said downstream end having an aperture formed therein, said aperture having an interior dimension, and wherein a flexible nozzle tip of each said nozzle insert is positioned in said aperture and protrudes from one of said nozzles, each said nozzle tip having an exterior dimension, said exterior dimension of said nozzle tips being no larger than said interior dimension of said apertures.

Claim 25 (new): The nozzle of Claim 15, wherein each said nozzle insert is an integral member formed from an outer sleeve surrounding an inner cannulated member.

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Claim 26 (new): The shower head assembly of Claim 1, wherein said nozzle body includes a nozzle tip passageway formed therein, said nozzle body including a shoulder positioned intermediate said nozzle insert passageway and said nozzle tip passageway, said nozzle insert comprising an outer sleeve surrounding an inner cannulated member, said outer sleeve abutting said shoulder.

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Claim 27 (new): The nozzle of Claim 14, wherein said nozzle body includes a nozzle tip passageway formed therein, said nozzle body including a shoulder positioned intermediate said nozzle insert passageway and said nozzle tip passageway, said nozzle insert comprising an outer sleeve surrounding an inner cannulated member, said outer sleeve abutting said shoulder.

Claim 28 (new): The shower head assembly of Claim 1, wherein each said nozzle is fixably secured to said shower head housing.
